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**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 12:04pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I am vigorously opposed to the proposed settlement in the Microsoft antitrust trial. The proposed settlement does not fully redress the actions committed by Microsoft in the past, nor inhibit their ability to commit similar actions in the future. Also, the proposal provides inadequate reparations to those injured by Microsoft's anti-competitive behavior. Hundreds, even thousands, of small companies have ceased to exist over the decades because of Microsoft's business practices. Microsoft seeks to stifle competition, rather than produce a better product.

I applauded the Clinton administration's courage to prosecute Microsoft for their anti-competitive behavior and was disgusted by the Bush administration's decision to acquiesce when the government had the superior position by rule of the full bench of the U.S. Court of Appeals. The Department of Justice's (DOJ) settlement was brokered by Bush administration appointee Assistant Attorney General Charles A. James, head of the DOJ's antitrust division. But career officials at the Justice Department, who had pursued the case since the beginning, displayed their displeasure with the agreement by not signing it. Also, the Attorneys General of 9 states and the District of Columbia found the proposed settlement to be substantially inadequate.

I hope that the results of this settlement will encourage more innovation and competition in the software industry. No one wants Microsoft to disappear, just to allow others to compete with them.

Thank you.

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